

MARVEL®

THE INCREDIBLE

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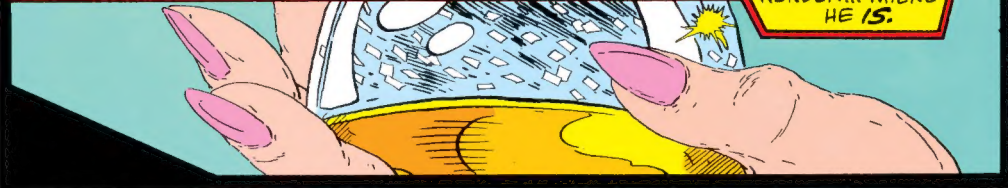
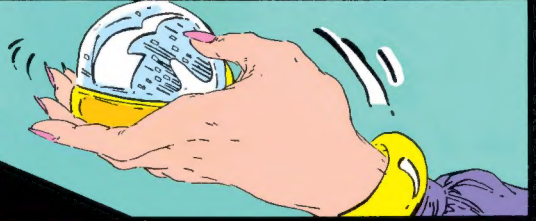


A **Stan Lee** PRESENTATION----STARRING THE INCREDIBLE **HULK!**

"I'VE SPENT MY ENTIRE LIFE VACILLATING BETWEEN DOING WHAT I *SHOULD* DO AND WHAT I *WANT* TO DO. BETWEEN *DUTY* AND *DESIRE*."

"AND YET, NO MATTER WHICH WAY I'VE GONE, I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL THE SAME AS THIS SWIRLING DOME IN MY HAND... GOING ROUND AND ROUND, AND, ULTIMATELY, GETTING *NOWHERE*."

"I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF *HE* FEELS THE SAME. AND, DESPITE MY RESOLUTION NOT TO, I WONDER... WHERE *HE IS*."



PETER DAVID
STORY

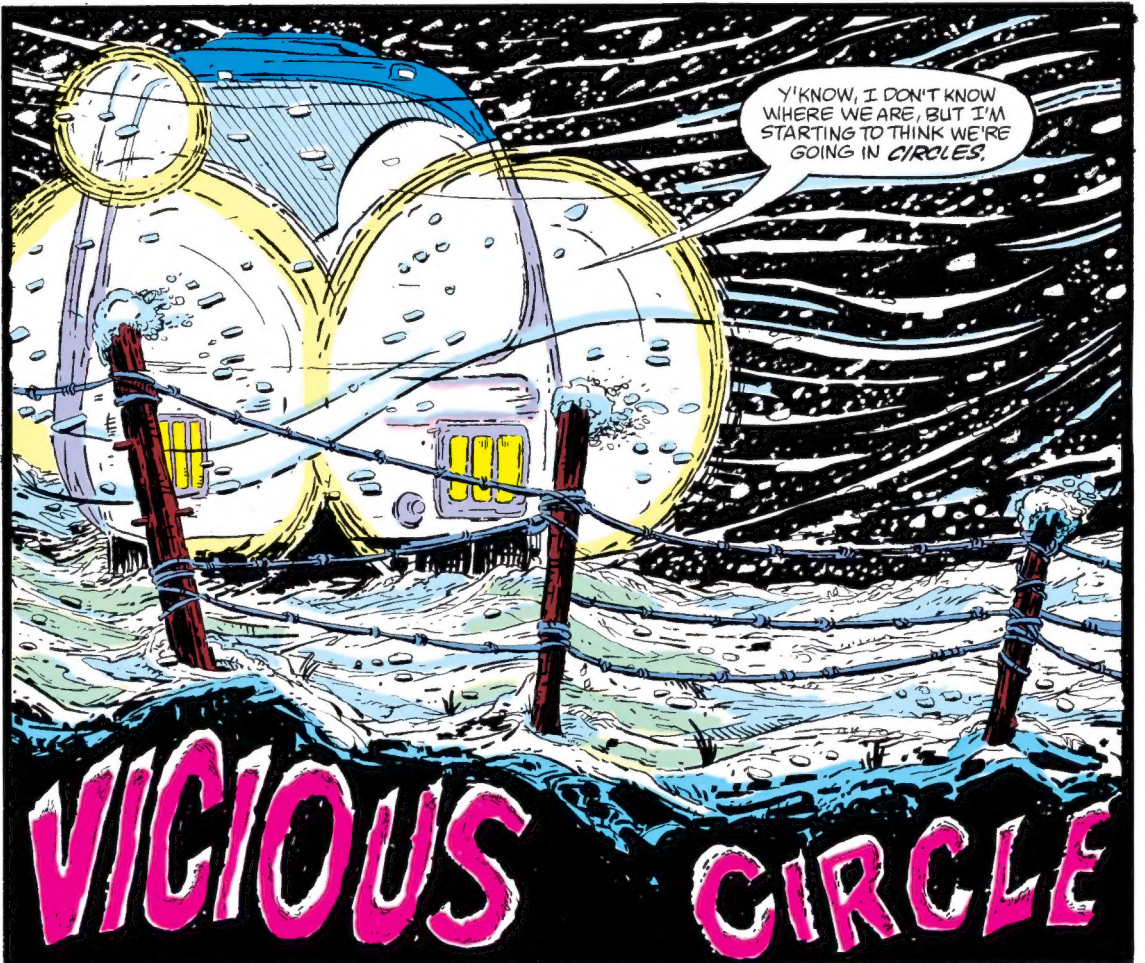
TODD MCFARLANE
ART

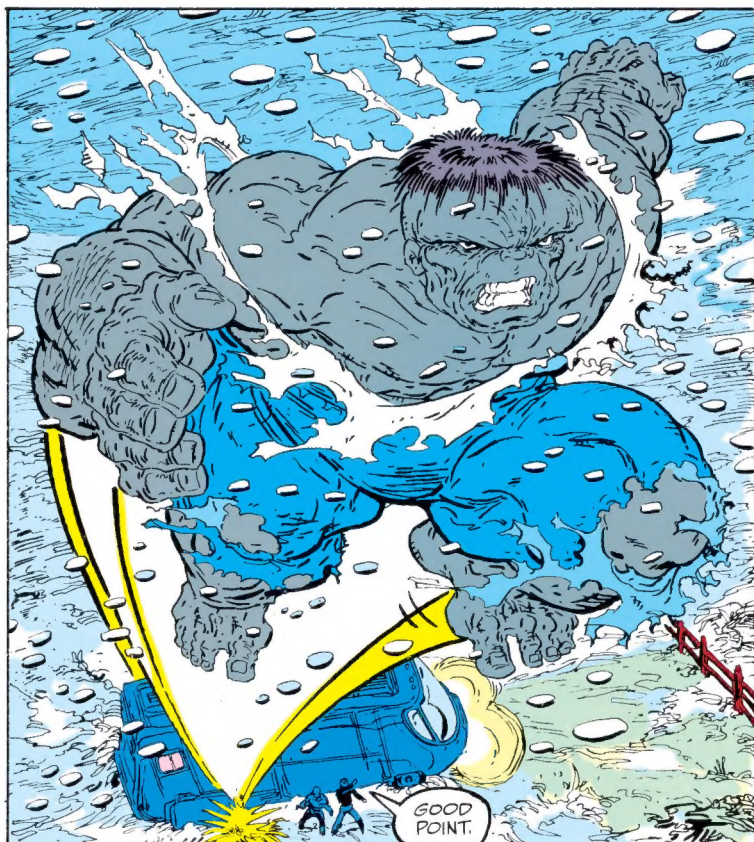
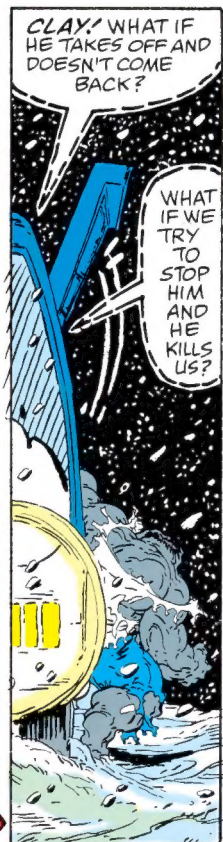
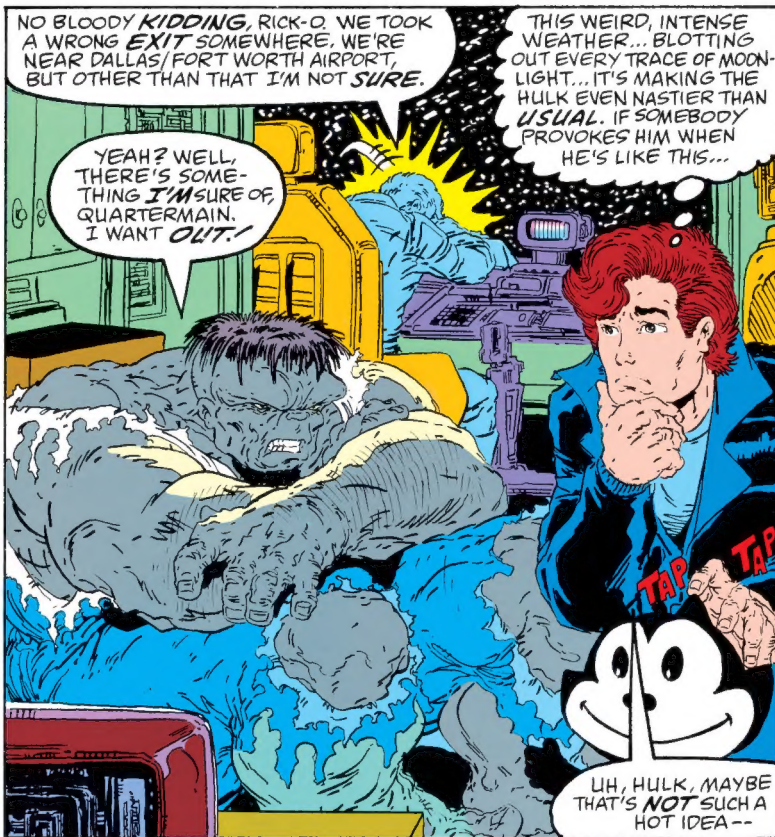
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LETTERING

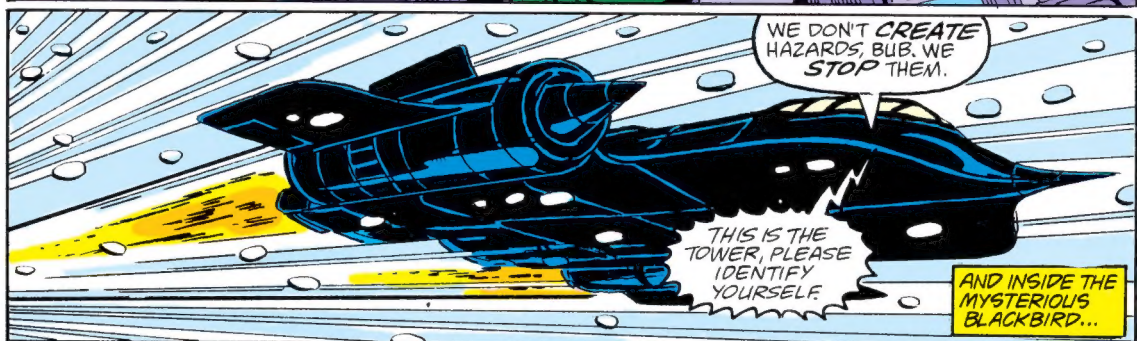
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BOB HARRAS
EDITOR

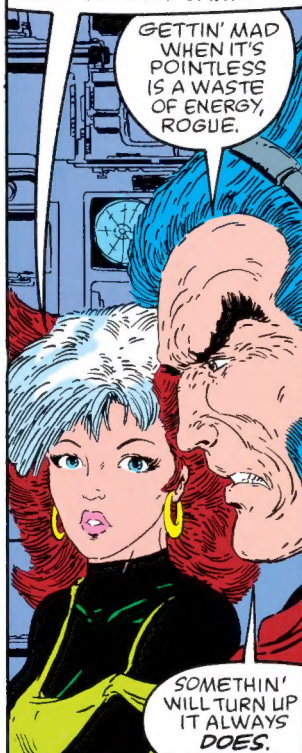
TOM DE FALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF







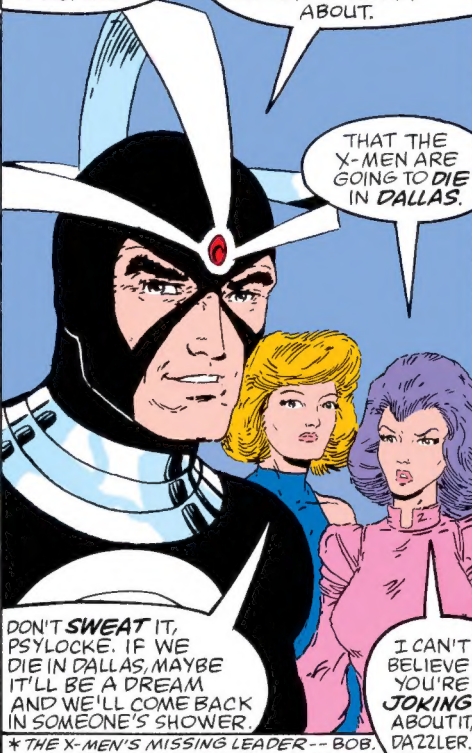
AH THINK YOU'RE PRETTY **CALM**, WOLVIE... CONSIDERING WE BUSTED A FEW TURBINES TO GET HERE FROM SAN FRANCISCO AND NOW WE CAN'T EVEN **LAND**.



GETTIN' MAD WHEN IT'S POINTLESS IS A WASTE OF ENERGY, ROGUE.

SOMETHIN' WILL TURN UP IT ALWAYS **DOES**.

THAT'S PRETTY **OPTIMISTIC**, WOLVERINE, CONSIDERING WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST.



EVEN IF WE **DO** LAND... EVEN IF WE FIND FORGE AND HELP STORM* GET HER POWERS BACK... THERE'S STILL THAT PRE-DICTION TO WORRY ABOUT.

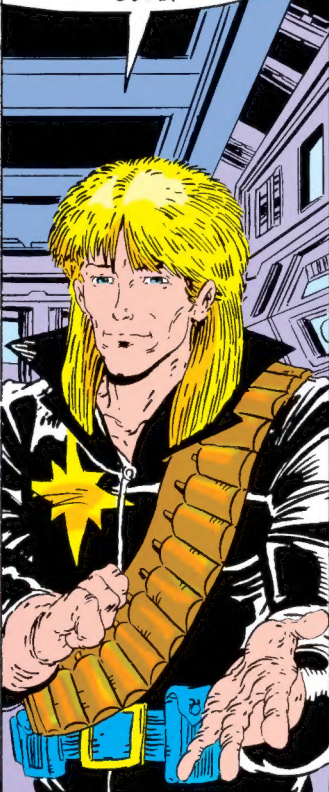
THAT THE X-MEN ARE GOING TO **DIE** IN DALLAS.

DON'T **SWEAT** IT, PSYLOCKE. IF WE DIE IN DALLAS, MAYBE IT'LL BE A DREAM AND WE'LL COME BACK IN SOMEONE'S SHOWER.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE **JOKING** ABOUT IT, DAZZLER.

* THE X-MEN'S MISSING LEADER -- BOB.

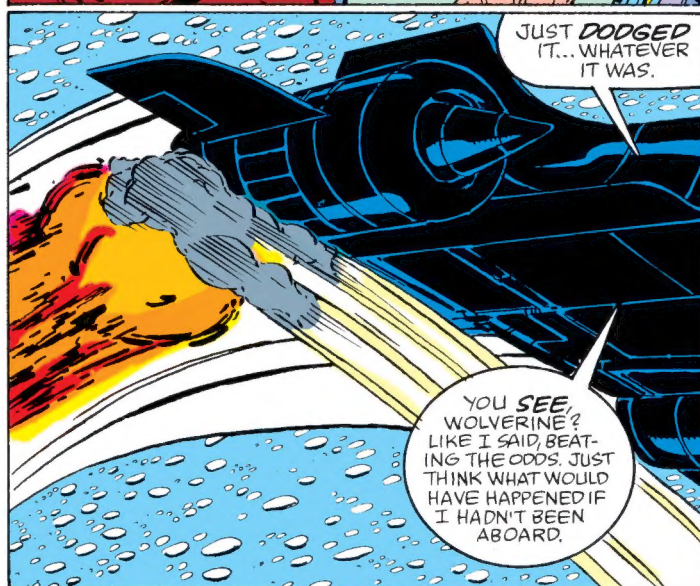
BUT AS LONG AS YOU'VE GOT **ME** ALONG, MY GOOD LUCK MAY HELP US BEAT THE **ODDS**.



ZIP IT, LONGSHOT! SOMETHING'S HEADING OUR WAY.

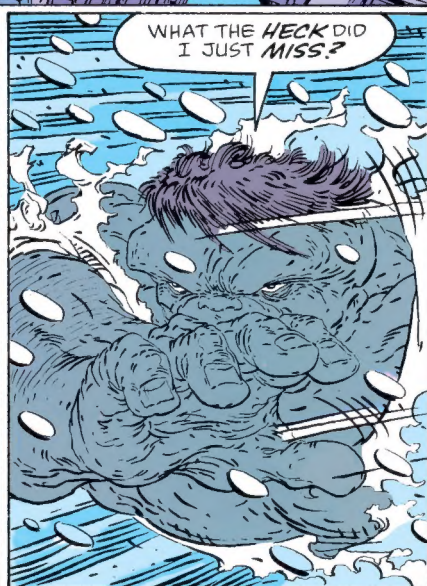
HANG ON! THIS'LL BE TIGHT!

BEEP!

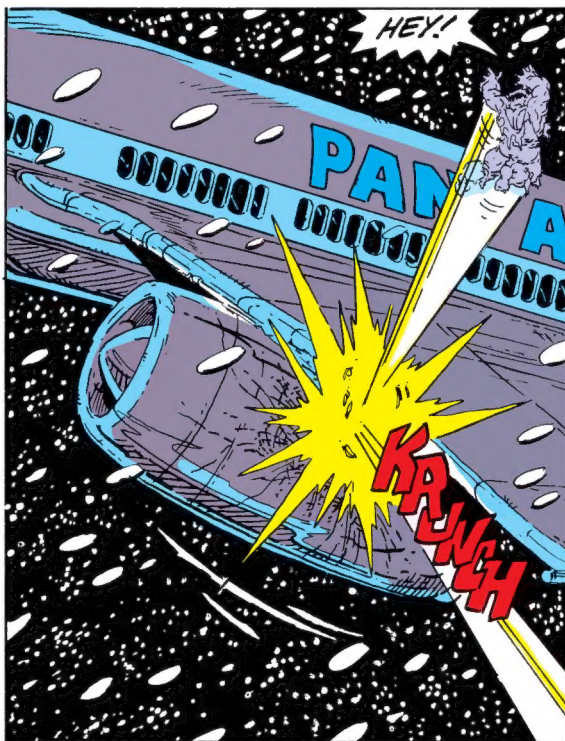


JUST **DODGED** IT... WHATEVER IT WAS.

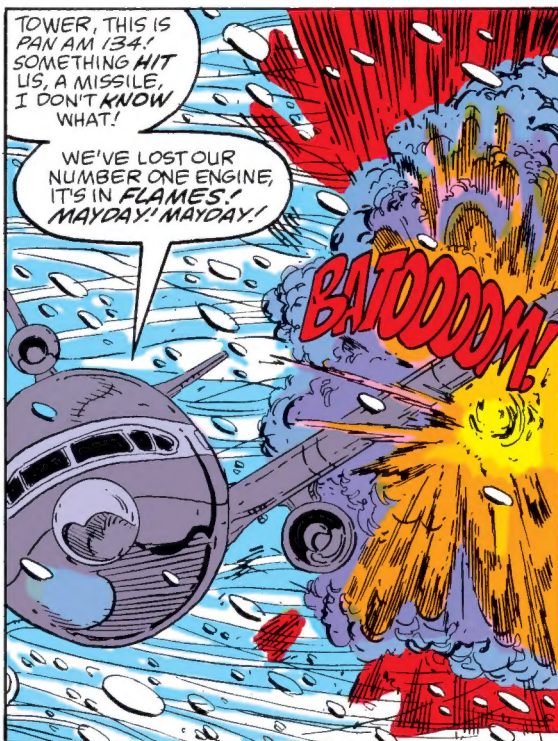
YOU **SEE**, WOLVERINE? LIKE I SAID, BEATING THE **ODDS**. JUST THINK WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF I HADN'T BEEN ABOARD.



WHAT THE **HECK** DID I JUST **MISS**?



HEY!



TOWER, THIS IS PAN AM 134! SOMETHING HIT US, A MISSILE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT!

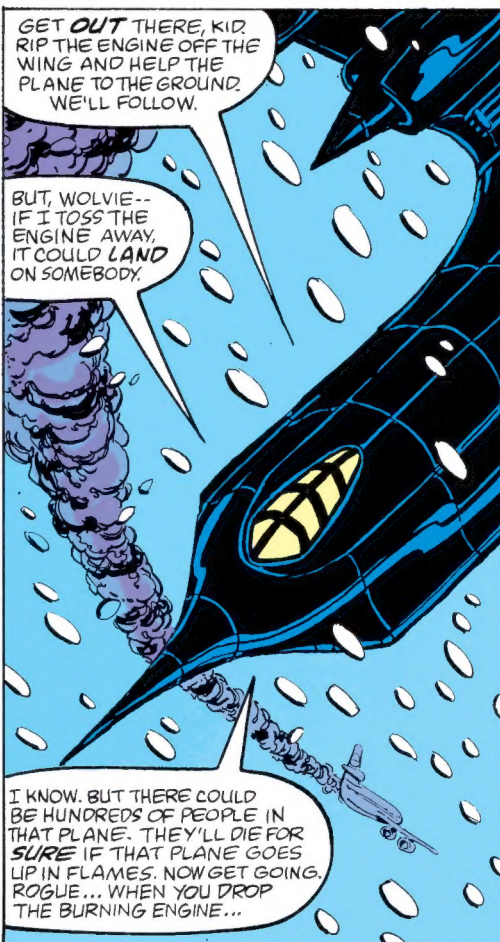
WE'VE LOST OUR NUMBER ONE ENGINE, IT'S IN FLAMES! MAYDAY! MAYDAY!

BATOON!



ROGUE! I'M PICKIN' UP A MAYDAY, DARLIN'. COMMERCIAL JET.

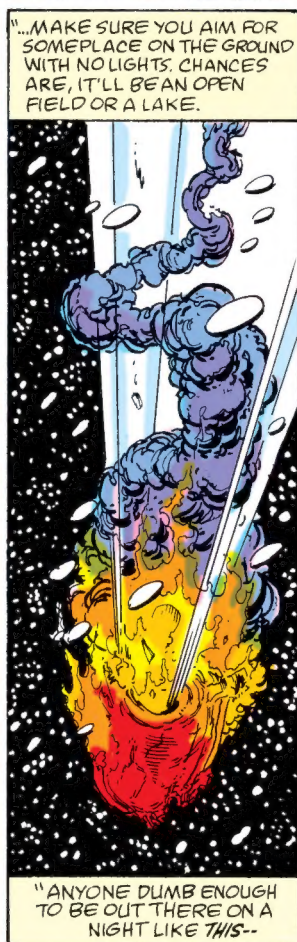
AH SEE IT, WOLVIE. LOOKS LIKE A SHOOTING STAR!



GET OUT THERE, KID. RIP THE ENGINE OFF THE WING AND HELP THE PLANE TO THE GROUND. WE'LL FOLLOW.

BUT, WOLVIE-- IF I TOSS THE ENGINE AWAY, IT COULD LAND ON SOMEBODY.

I KNOW. BUT THERE COULD BE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE IN THAT PLANE. THEY'LL DIE FOR SURE IF THAT PLANE GOES UP IN FLAMES. NOW GET GOING, ROGUE... WHEN YOU DROP THE BURNING ENGINE...



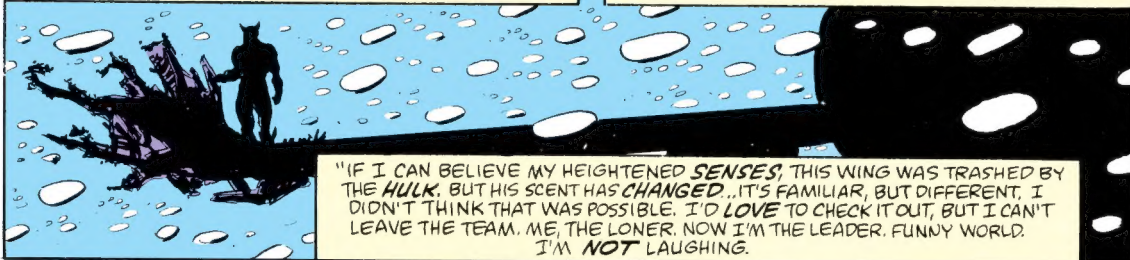
...MAKE SURE YOU AIM FOR SOMEPLACE ON THE GROUND WITH NO LIGHTS. CHANCES ARE, IT'LL BE AN OPEN FIELD OR A LAKE.

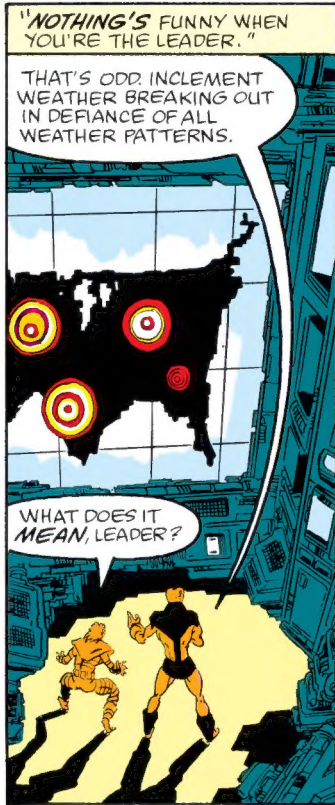
"ANYONE DUMB ENOUGH TO BE OUT THERE ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS--



"I'M CALLED WOLVERINE. I'M A MUTANT... LIKE THE REST OF THE X-MEN, AND AS I CHECK OVER THE WING ON THIS AIRPLANE ROGUE BROUGHT DOWN, I THINK ABOUT ALL THE **STRANGENESS** IN MY LIFE RIGHT NOW."

"THIS UNREAL WEATHER. THE LEADERSHIP OF THE X-MEN. IT'S AS IF THE WORLD'S IN **FLUX** AROUND ME. BUT MY INSTINCTS... THEY'VE BEEN A CONSTANT. UNSWERVING, DEPENDABLE. UNTIL LATELY, MAYBE."





"**NOTHING'S** FUNNY WHEN YOU'RE THE LEADER."

THAT'S ODD. INCLEMENT WEATHER BREAKING OUT IN DEFIANCE OF ALL WEATHER PATTERNS.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN, LEADER?



IT MEANS THAT THE WORLD SITUATION MAY BE DETERIORATING **FASTER** THAN I ANTICIPATED. I MAY HAVE TO SEIZE THE REINS EARLIER THAN SCHEDULED.

YOU'LL NEED A REALLY POWERFUL WEAPON TO **DO** IT. HOW ABOUT THE **GAMMA RAY BOMB**?



AH, HALF-LIFE... IN ADDITION TO BEING OBVIOUSLY **PATHETIC**, YOU'RE **PATHETICALLY OBVIOUS**. YOU WANT VENGEANCE FOR WHAT THE BOMB DID TO **YOU** AND ARE SEEKING POETIC JUSTICE. NEVERTHELESS...



"...YOU RAISE A **VALID** POINT. TIME FOR A CALL TO..."

THE **PENTAGON**. GENERAL HAMILTON SPEAKING.

GENERAL... THIS IS YOUR **LEADER**.

PLEASE GIVE ME A **FULL** REPORT ON THIS STRANGE WEATHER SITUATION.



YES, SIR. WE ARE SENDING TROOPS IN TO AID IN THE LARGEST DISASTER AREAS, INCLUDING DALLAS AND CHICAGO.

NO, SIR. OUR METEOROLOGISTS HAVE **NO** EXPLANATION.



THE **BOMB**! ASK HIM ABOUT THE--

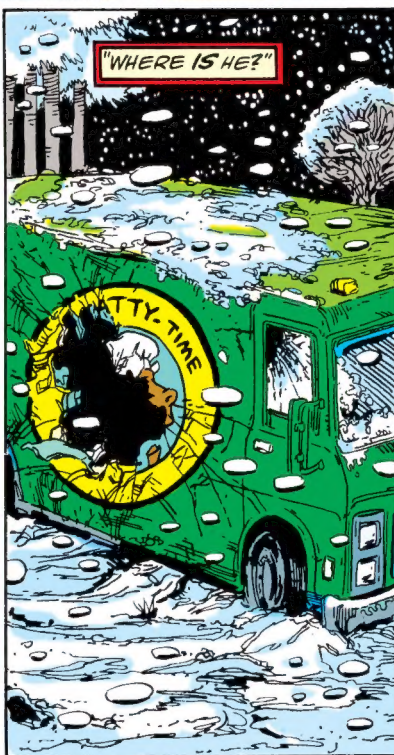
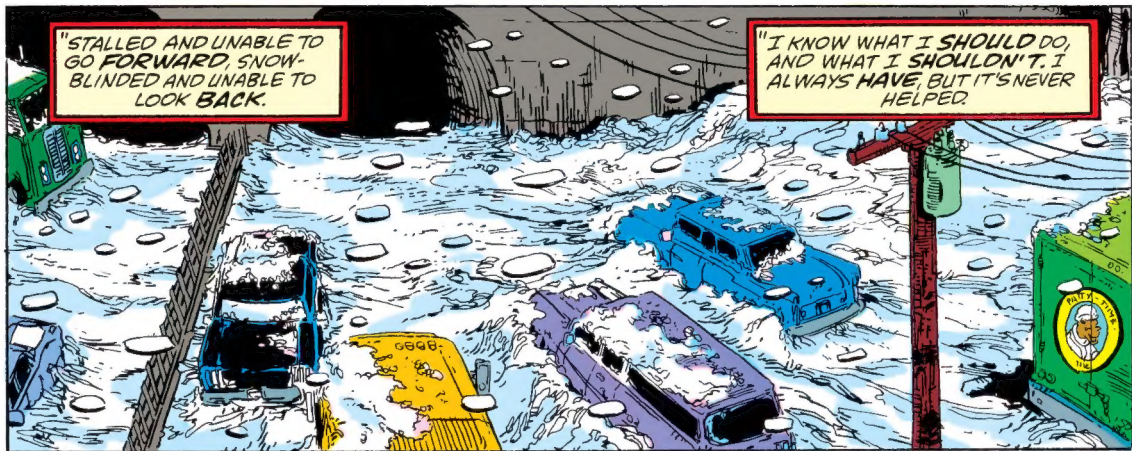
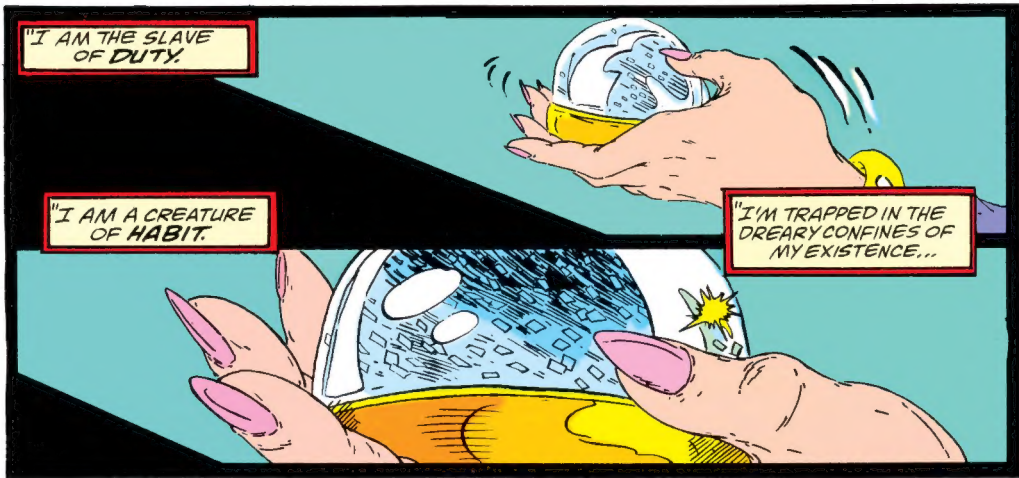
HALF-LIFE, I FOUND YOU IN THE DESERT SUR-ROUNDED BY ASSORTED LIMBS AND FOUR RADIATION-POISONED **VULTURES**.

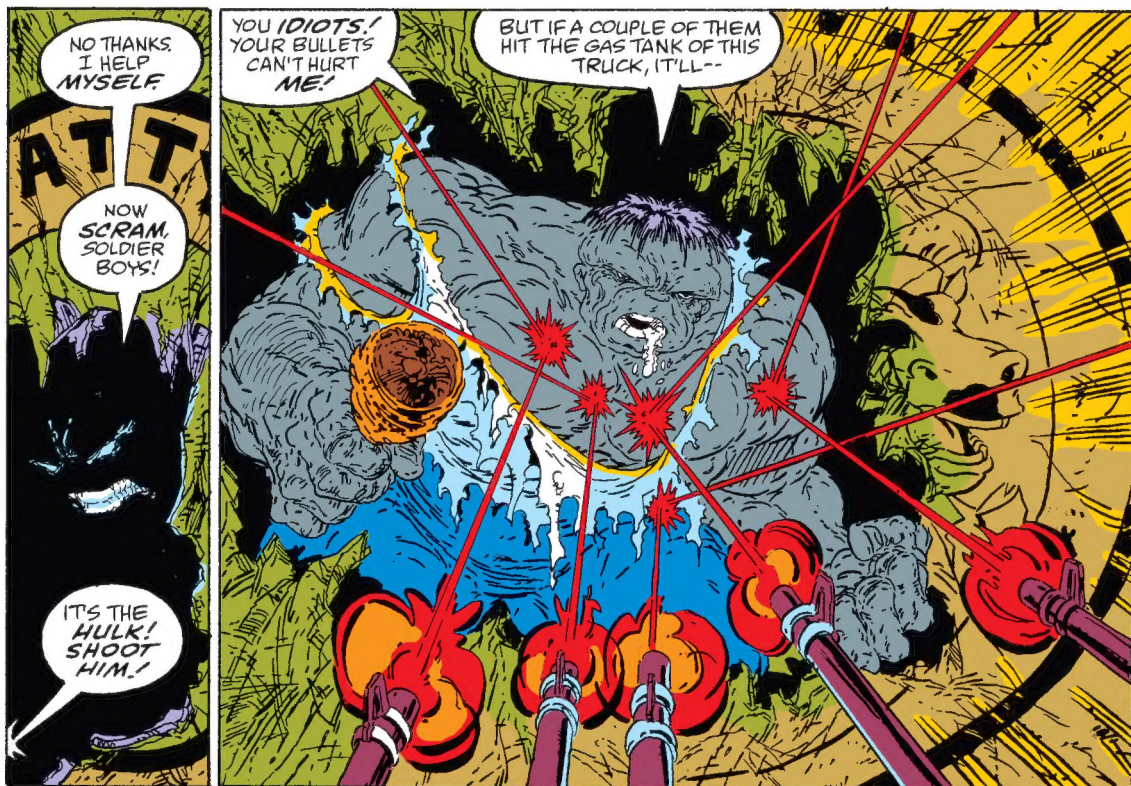
IF YOU DON'T **SHUT UP**, I'LL LEAVE YOU IN **WORSE** SHAPE THAN **THAT**.

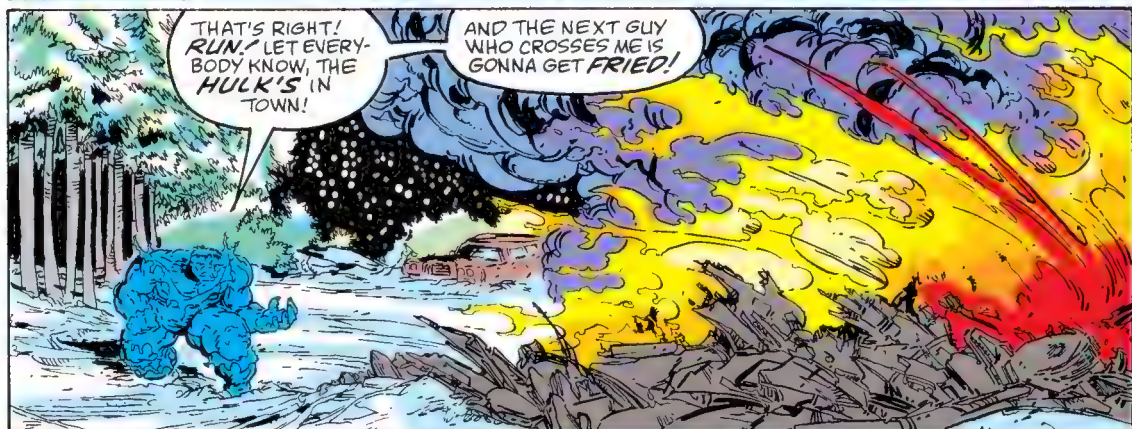
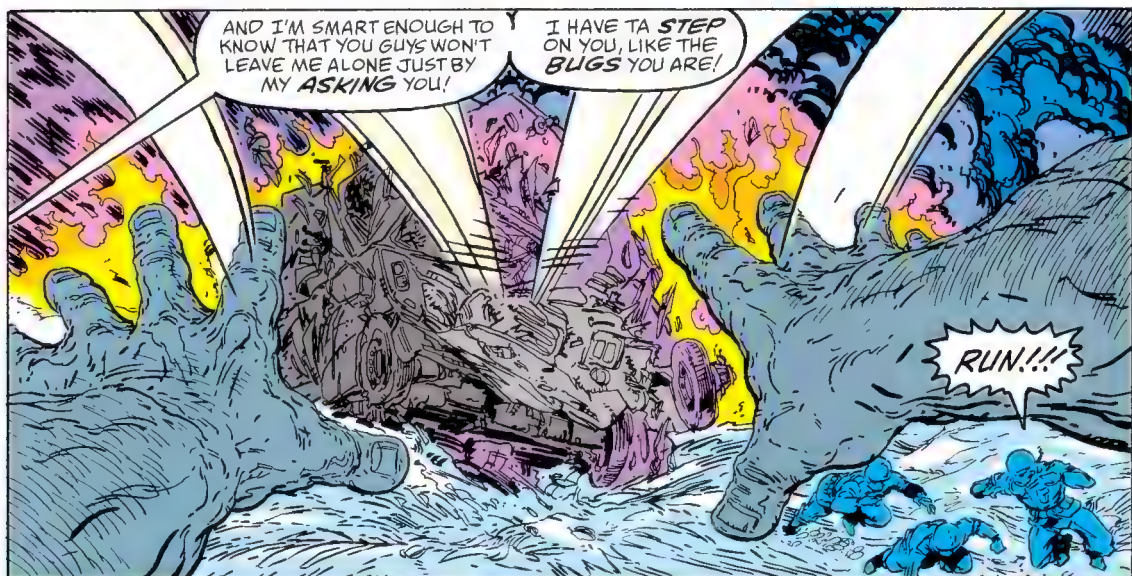
NOW, GENERAL... LISTEN VERY **CAREFULLY**. THE GOVERNMENT IS MASS-MANUFACTURING **GAMMA RAY BOMBS**.



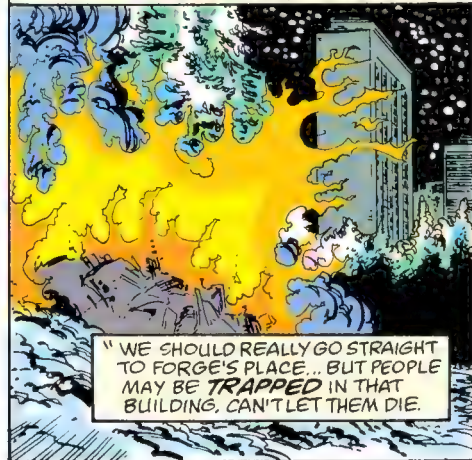
YOUR **LEADER** WANTS TO KNOW WHERE THEY **ARE**.



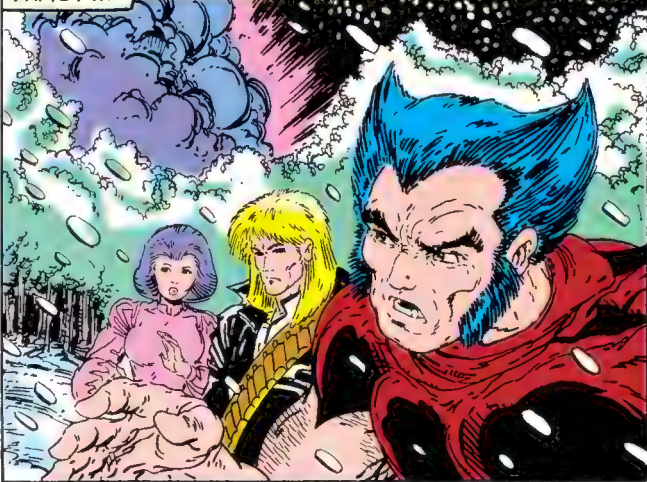




"THE WIND CARRIES THE SMOKE TO ME BEFORE WE FINALLY **SEE** IT... SOME WOODS ARE BURNING. AND THERE'S AN APARTMENT HOUSE NEARBY.



"I TELL... **MY**... TEAM TO GET TO THE APARTMENT BUILDING, EVACUATE EVERYONE, HELP WHEREVER THEY CAN. I PULL ON MY **MASK**...



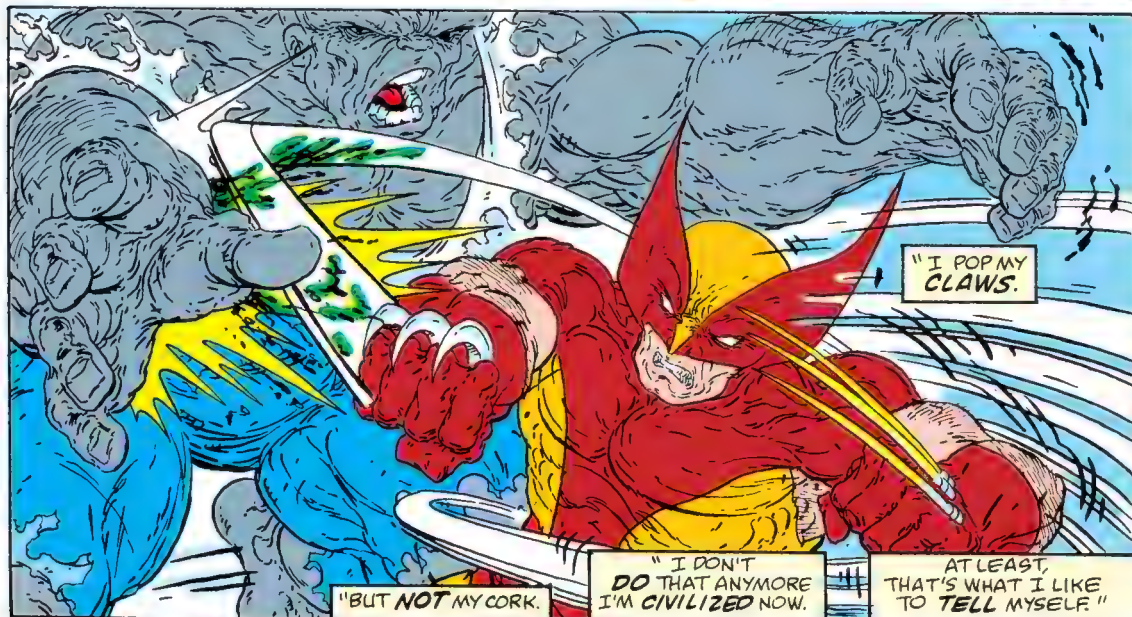
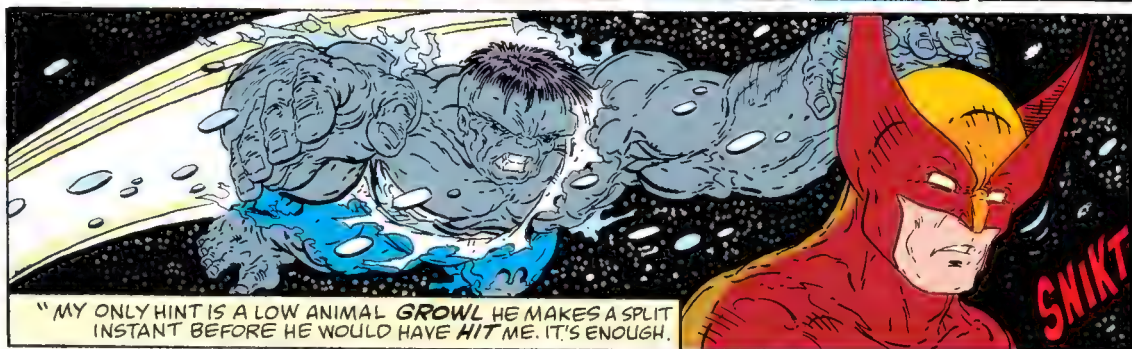
"AND CHECK OUT THE **SOURCE** OF THE **BLAZE**. I FIND THE BURNING REMAINS OF A TRUCK. WIND CARRIED SPARKS TO THE WOODS.

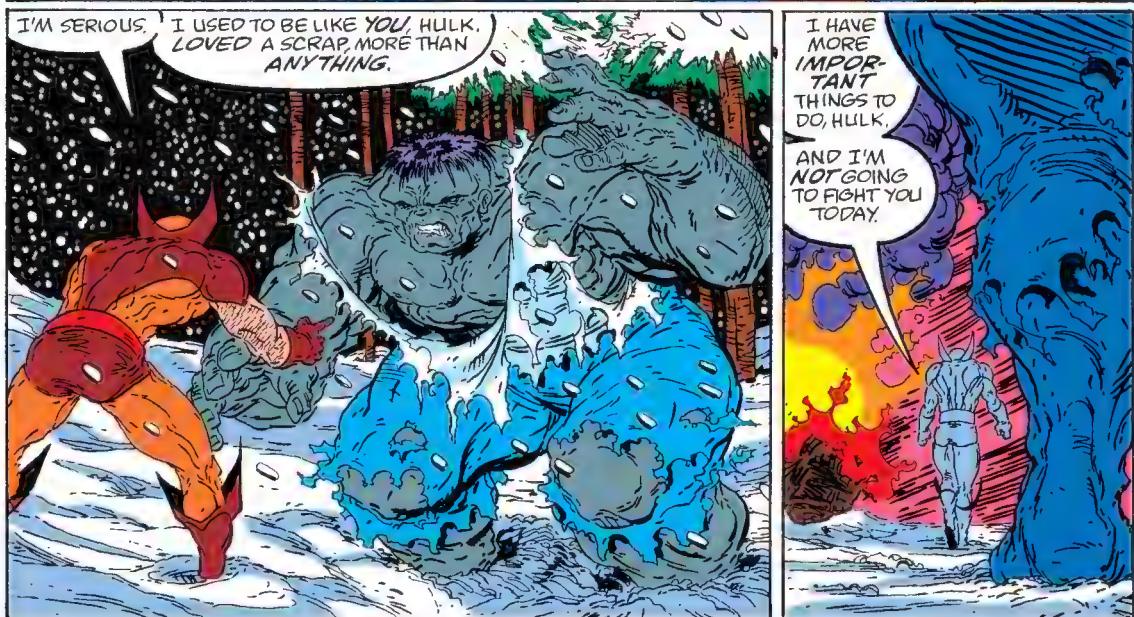
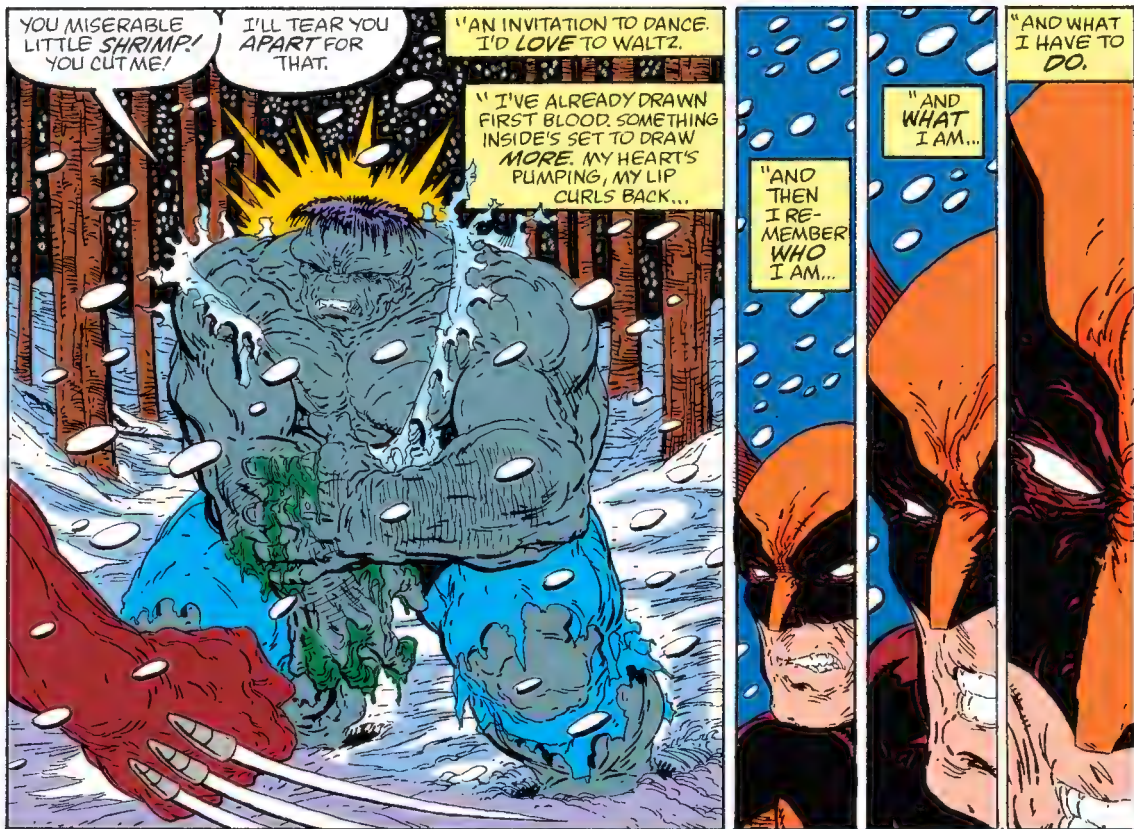
"WHATEVER HAPPENED HERE, IT'S NONE OF MY CONCERN. STILL, I SAY OUT LOUD..."

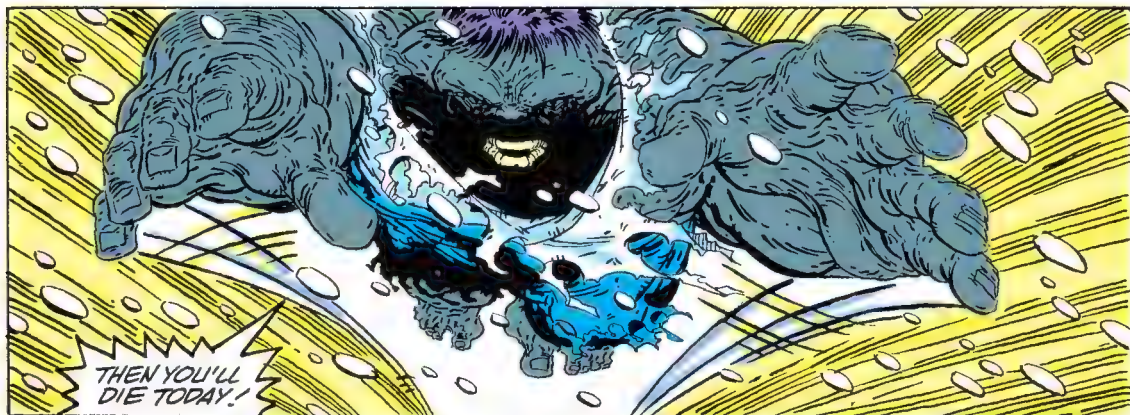
I WONDER WHO THE **JERK** IS WHO'S **RE-SPONSIBLE** FOR THIS?

"I REALIZE LATER THAT THE WIND'S AGAINST ME. MY WORDS CARRY.

"HIS SCENT DOESN'T.







THEN YOU'LL
DIE TODAY!

"HE MAY BE RIGHT. BUT TO DIE IN POINTLESS
BATTLE WITH HIM...IT'S A *WASTE*. IT'S EVERY-
THING I'VE TRIED TO PUT MYSELF *BEYOND*.

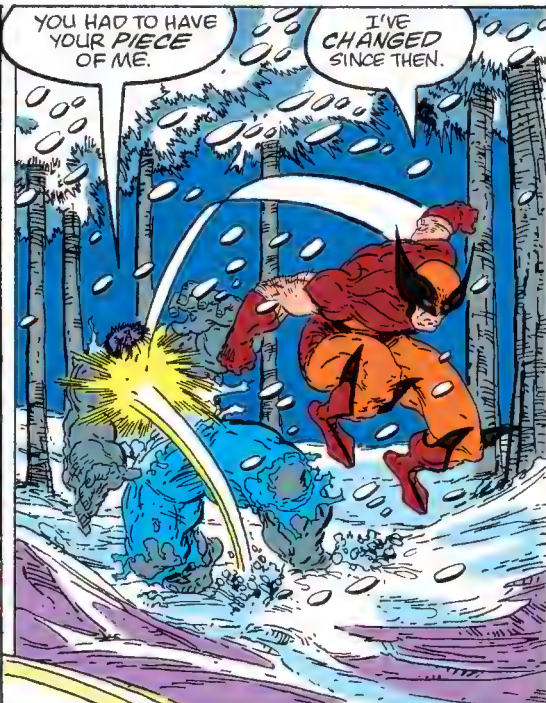
YOU THINK I'VE *FORGOTTEN*
WHEN WE FIRST MET IN CANADA? *
I JUST WANTED TO BE LEFT ALONE,
BUT YOU WOULDN'T BACK OFF,
OH NO.

YOU HAD TO HAVE
YOUR *PIECE*
OF ME.

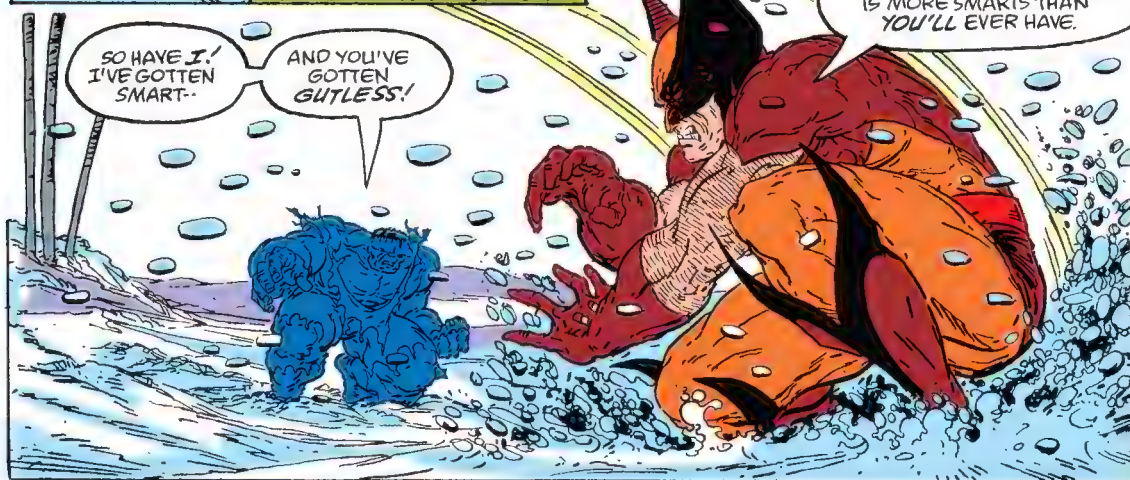
I'VE
CHANGED
SINCE THEN.



* WAY BACK IN ISSUE #180 -- BOB.



KNOWING WHEN TO FIGHT
AND WHEN TO *WALK AWAY*
IS MORE SMARTS THAN
YOU'LL EVER HAVE.



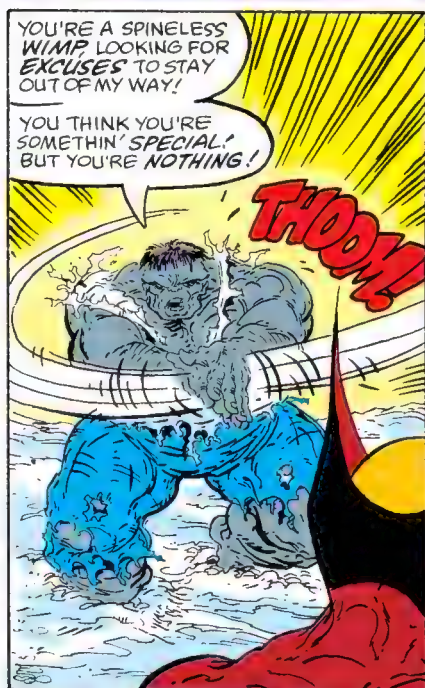
SO HAVE I.
I'VE GOTTEN
SMART..

AND YOU'VE
GOTTEN
GUTLESS!



YOU TALK
TOO MUCH.
YOU THINK
TOO MUCH.

PUNCH!



YOU'RE A SPINELESS
WIMP LOOKING FOR
EXCUSES TO STAY
OUT OF MY WAY!

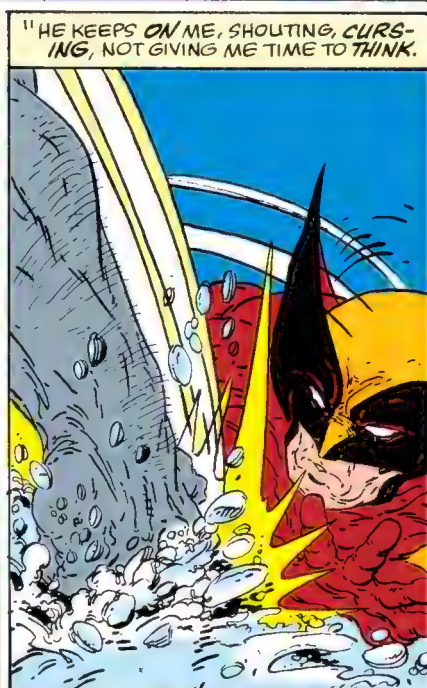
YOU THINK YOU'RE
SOMETHIN' SPECIAL!
BUT YOU'RE NOTHING!

THUD!

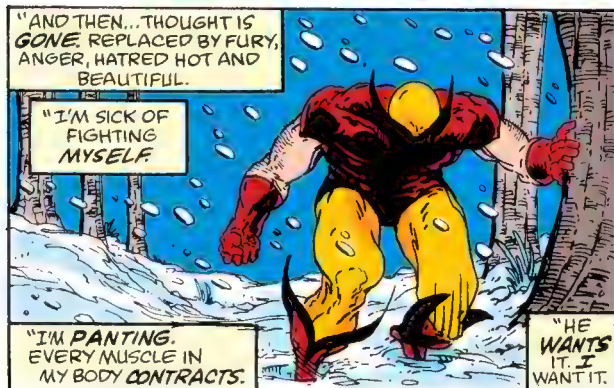


"THAT EAR-SPLITTING
CLAP OF HIS IS DEVAS-
TATING AGAINST SOME-
ONE NORMAL.

"AGAINST ME, WITH
MY ACUTE HEARING,
IT'S ALMOST LETHAL.



"HE KEEPS ON ME, SHOUTING, CURS-
ING, NOT GIVING ME TIME TO THINK.



"AND THEN...THOUGHT IS
GONE. REPLACED BY FURY,
ANGER, HATRED HOT AND
BEAUTIFUL.

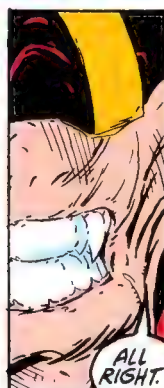
"I'M SICK OF
FIGHTING
MYSELF.

"I'M PANTING.
EVERY MUSCLE IN
MY BODY CONTRACTS.

"HE
WANTS
IT. I
WANT IT.



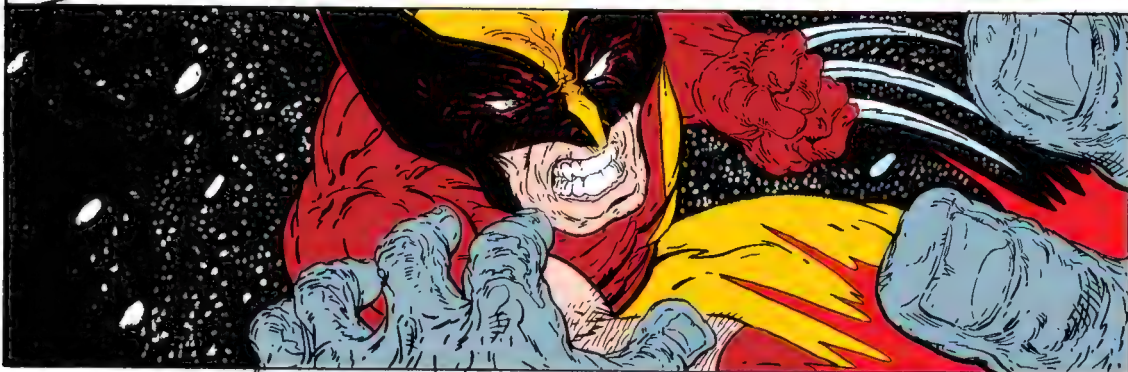
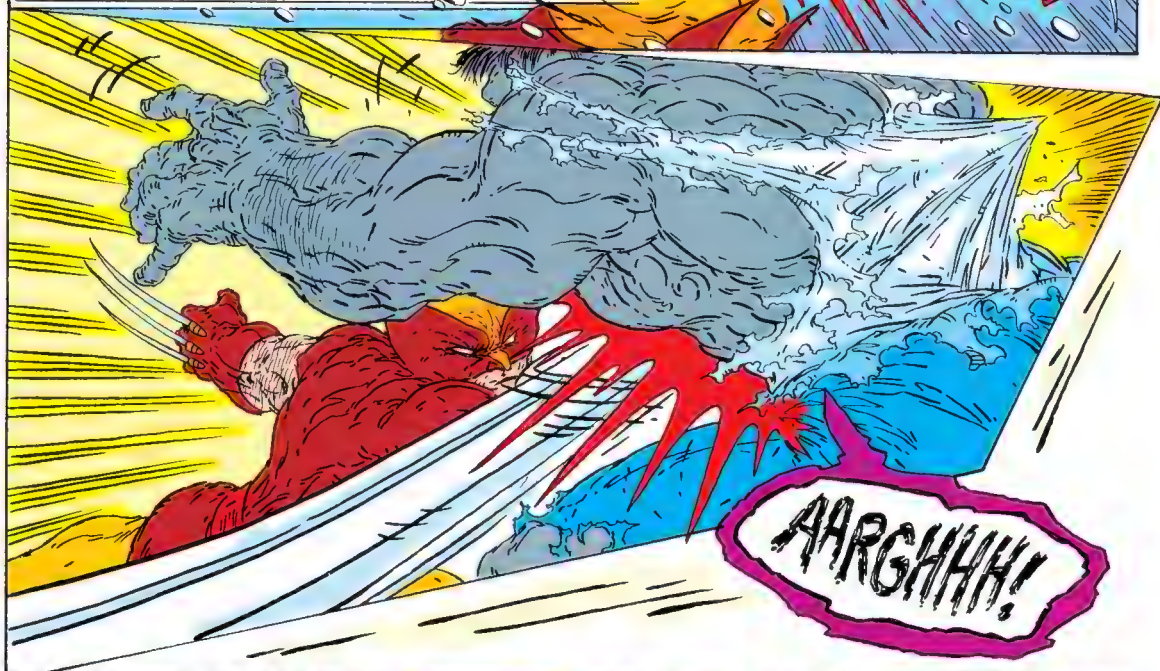
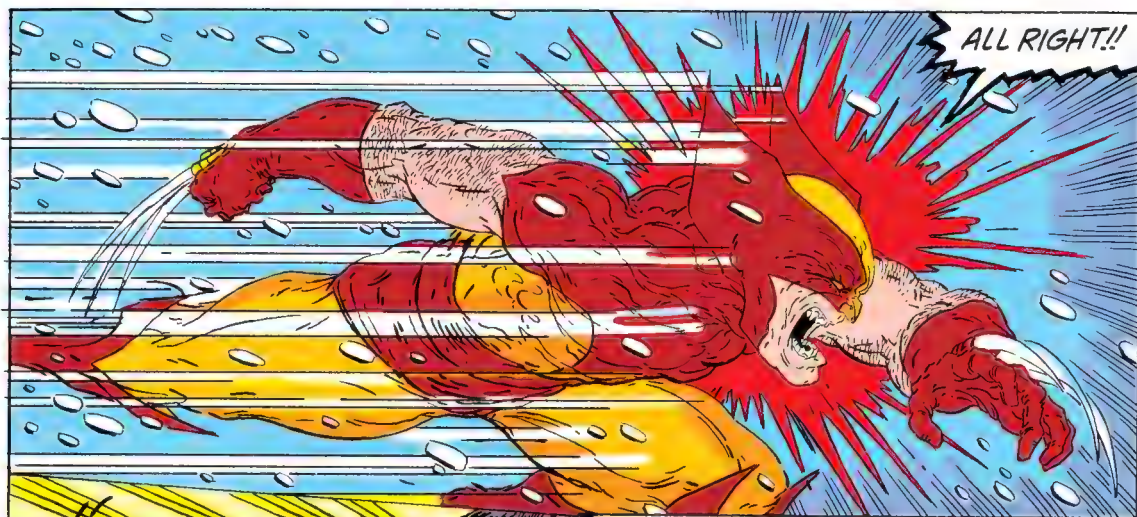
"ALL RIGHT.

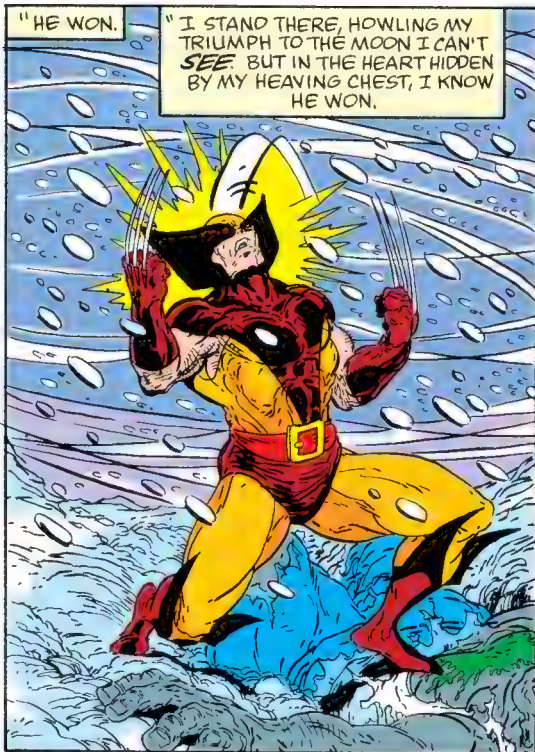


ALL
RIGHT.



SN-AT





"HE WON.

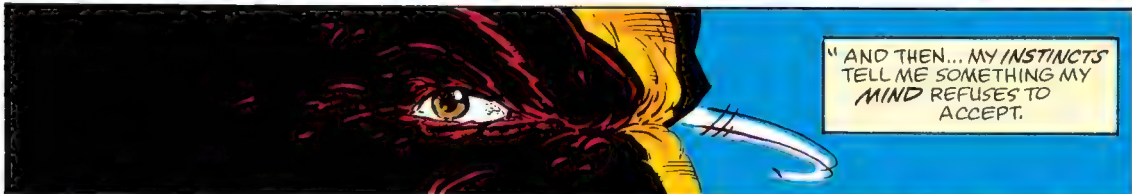
"I STAND THERE, HOWLING MY TRIUMPH TO THE MOON I CAN'T SEE. BUT IN THE HEART HIDDEN BY MY HEAVING CHEST, I KNOW HE WON.



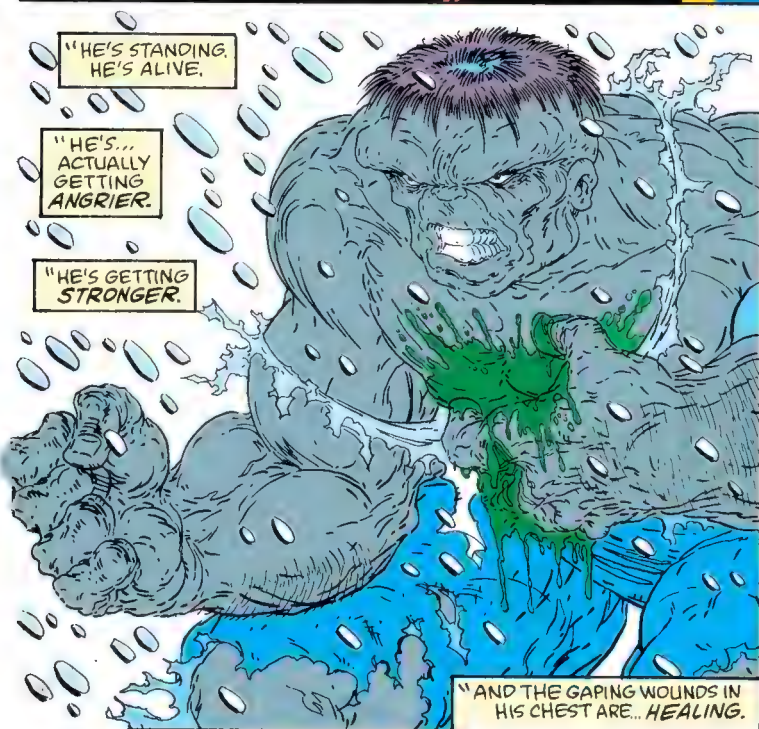
"BECAUSE HE MADE WHAT I AM STRONGER THAN WHAT I THINK I AM.

"LIKE A WILD ANIMAL, I RIPPED HIM APART. AND THE WORST THING IS...

"I'M GLAD.



"AND THEN... MY INSTINCTS TELL ME SOMETHING MY MIND REFUSES TO ACCEPT.



"HE'S STANDING. HE'S ALIVE.

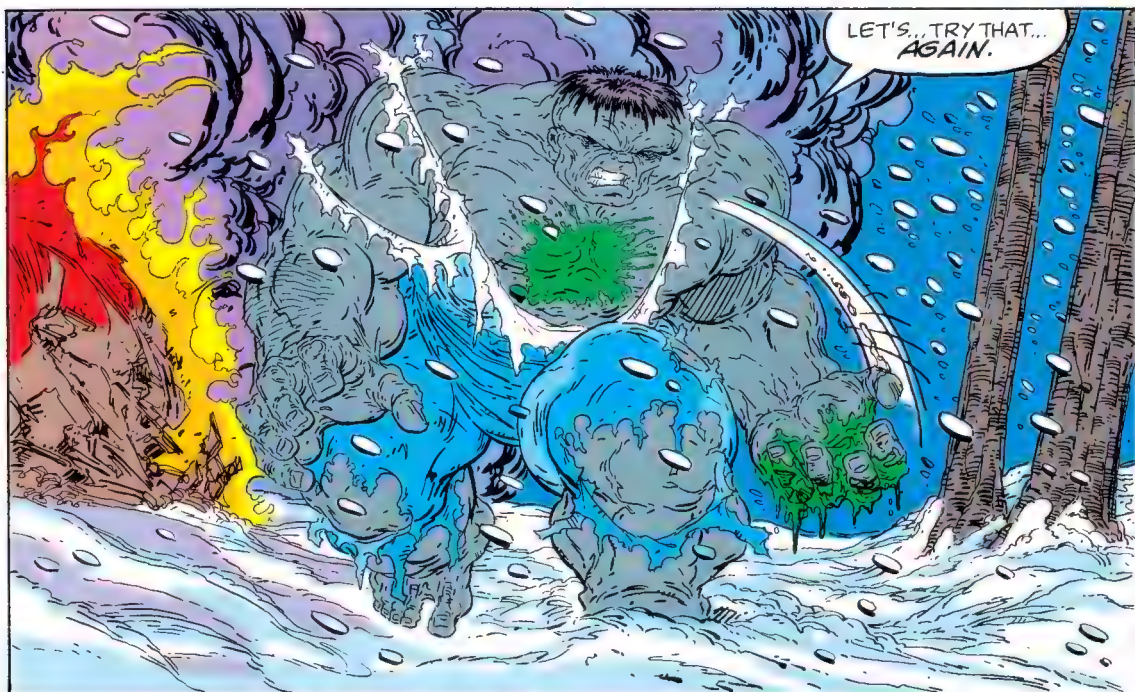
"HE'S... ACTUALLY GETTING ANGRIER.

"HE'S GETTING STRONGER.

"AND THE GAPING WOUNDS IN HIS CHEST ARE... HEALING.



LET'S...



I'M GLAD I TRIED THE **SHORTWAVE** AGAIN. I PICKED UP SOME SORT OF **POLICE** REPORT--

SOUNDS LIKE THE **HULK** AND SOMEBODY ELSE ARE SLUGGING IT OUT ON THE HIGHWAY, NEAR EXIT 12. IF WE **HURRY** WE CAN GET THERE BEFORE THEY LEVEL **DALLAS**. GOOD THING I FOUND THIS THING'S ON-BOARD GUIDANCE SYSTEM, OR WE'D'VE BEEN **SNOWBOUND FOREVER**.

THIS IS **INSANE**. WE'RE RISKING LIFE AND LIMB TO FIND THE **GAMMA RAY** BOMBS THE GOVERNMENT'S STOCKPILING, AND OUR GREATEST **ALLY** IS ALSO OUR BIGGEST **HANDICAP**.

HOPEFULLY STEALING THIS VAN AND RUNNING FROM **SHIELD** WILL BE WORTH IT, BUDDY. THE WORLD DOESN'T **NEED** A WEAPON THAT COULD CREATE EVEN **MORE** **GAMMA** GUYS FOR US TO WORRY ABOUT.

WHAT'CHA **GOT** THERE, CLAY?

SOME **PERSONAL** EFFECTS I GRABBED FROM **GAMMA** BASE RIGHT BEFORE I BLEW IT UP.



"HAPPIER TIMES. MY THOUGHTS KEEP BEING DRAWN **BACK** TO THEM. **WHY?**"

"**WHY** DO I KEEP TORTURING MYSELF?"

"WHY DO I KEEP **REOPENING** WOUNDS THAT REFUSE TO HEAL?"

THOSE PIGSTICKERS OF YOURS DIDN'T STOP ME **BEFORE**, AND THEY **WON'T** HELP YA NOW!

"I REALIZE WHAT IS HAPPENING, AND I DON'T **LIKE** IT."

"WHEN BRUCE BANNER GOT HIT BY GAMMA RAYS, IT GAVE HIM A KIND OF CANCER, CALLED THE **HULK**."

"THE MOST COMMON RESULT OF RADIATION EXPOSURE IS **CANCER**-- AN ABNORMAL GROWTH OF CELLS."

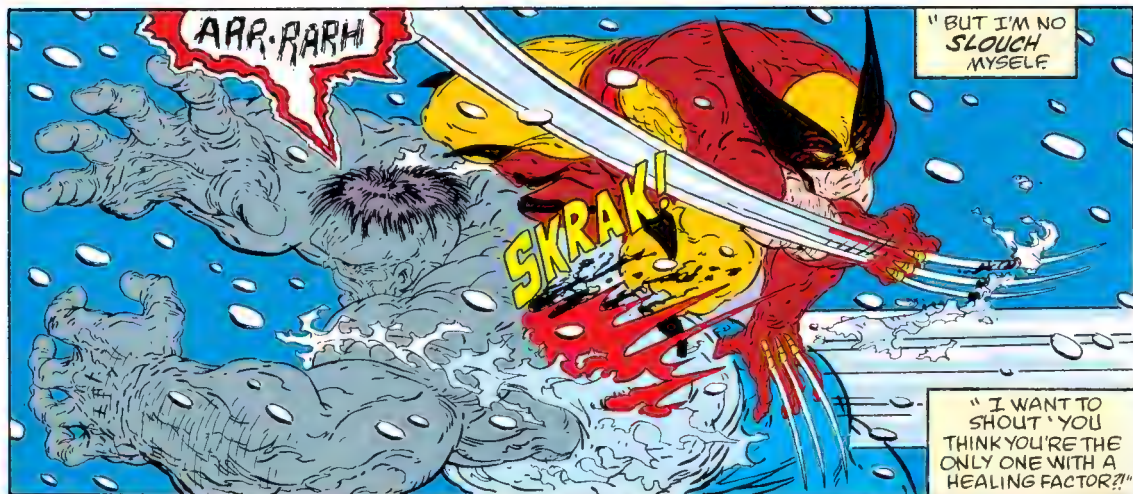
"I CUT HIM **AGAIN**-- HE HEALS EVEN **FASTER**."

"I ALWAYS THOUGHT THE HULK'S SKIN WAS **IMPENETRABLE**. I WAS **WRONG**."

"HE GETS **TOUGHER**. **STRONGER**. **HARDER** TO HURT."

"BUT HIS CELLS REPRODUCE SO **FAST** IT **SEEMS** THAT WAY. AND THE **MADDER** HE GETS, THE MORE HIS SYSTEM **SPEEDS UP** THE MORE CELLS HE PRODUCES..."

WHUMP



ARR-RARRH

"BUT I'M NO
SLOUCH
MYSELF

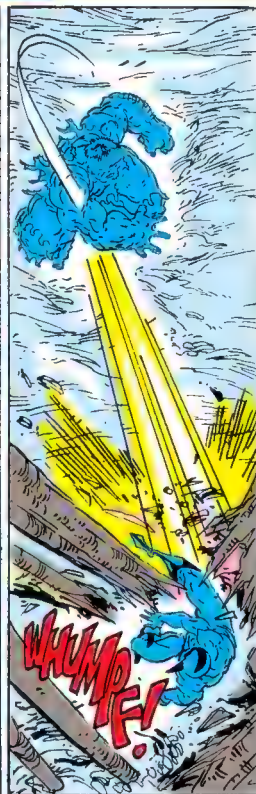
SKRAK!

"I WANT TO
SHOUT 'YOU
THINK YOU'RE THE
ONLY ONE WITH A
HEALING FACTOR?!"

"BUT MY THROAT IS CONSTRICTED.
MY BODY FEELS LIKE THERE'S
TOO MUCH BLOOD IN IT.

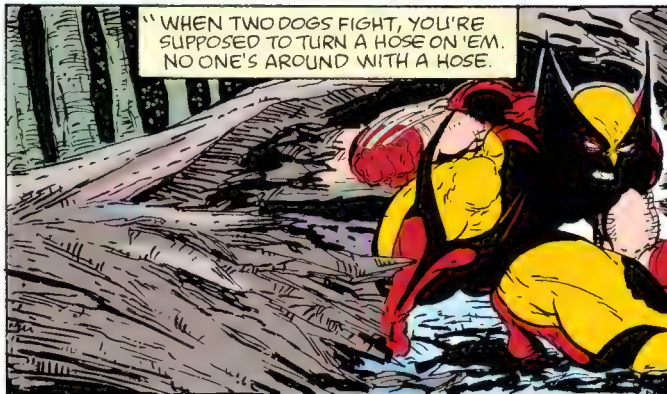


"I HACK AWAY, MINDLESSLY, AS
MINDLESS AS HE USED TO BE. AS
I USED TO BE.



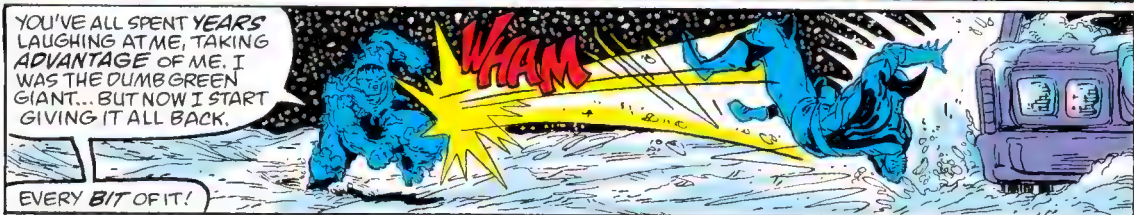
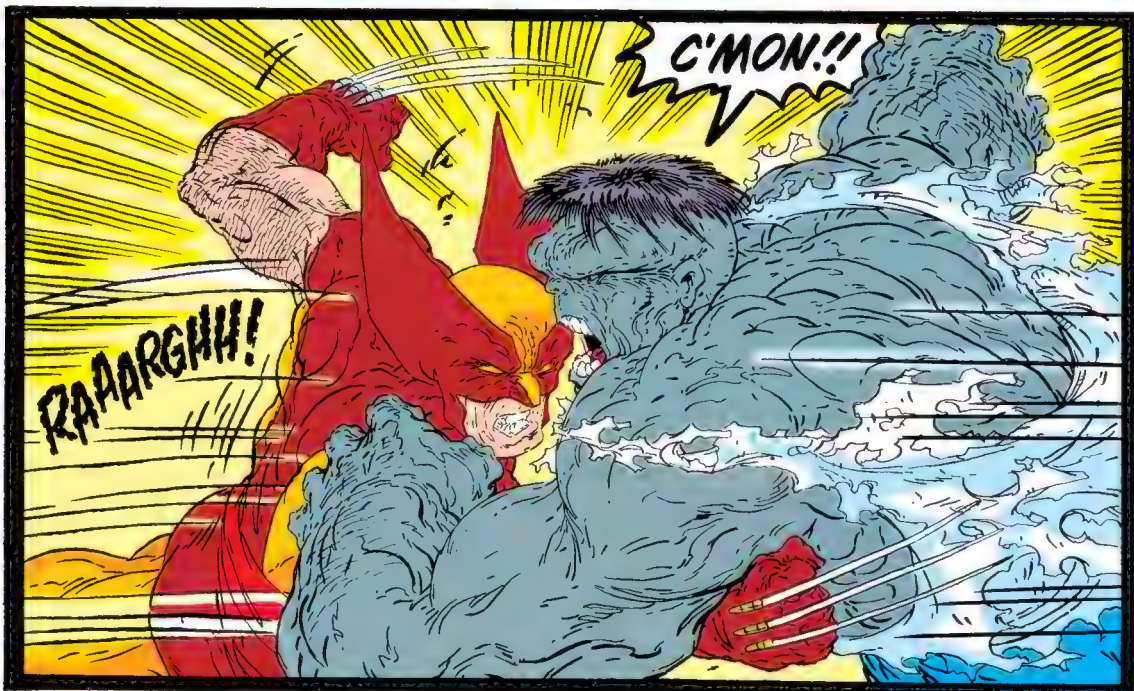
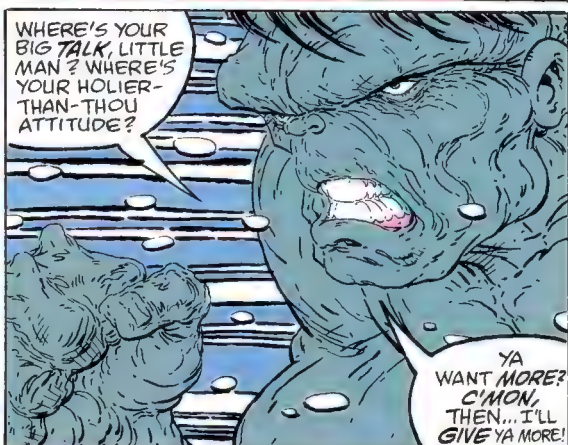
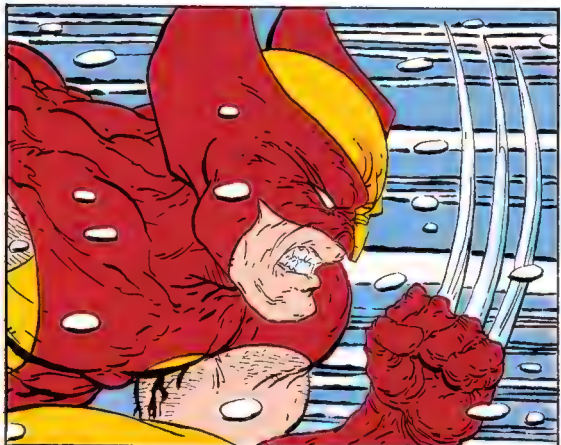
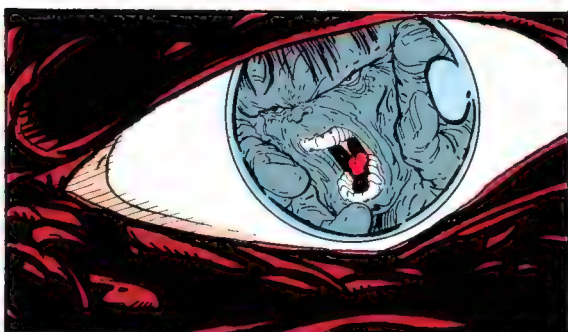
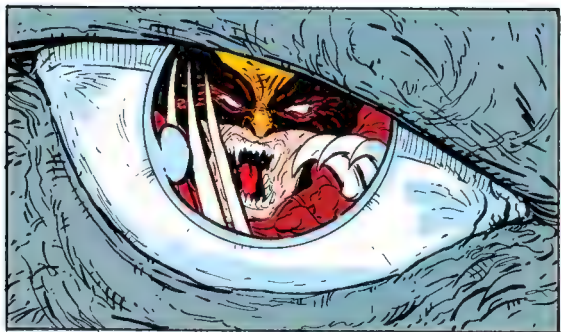
WHUMP!

"WHEN TWO DOGS FIGHT, YOU'RE
SUPPOSED TO TURN A HOSE ON 'EM.
NO ONE'S AROUND WITH A HOSE.



"THE X-MEN, FORGE, STORM...EVERY-
THING'S A DISTANT MEMORY. I CAN'T
THINK. ONLY FEEL.

"HE'S MINE. MY ENEMY.
MY KILL. MINE.



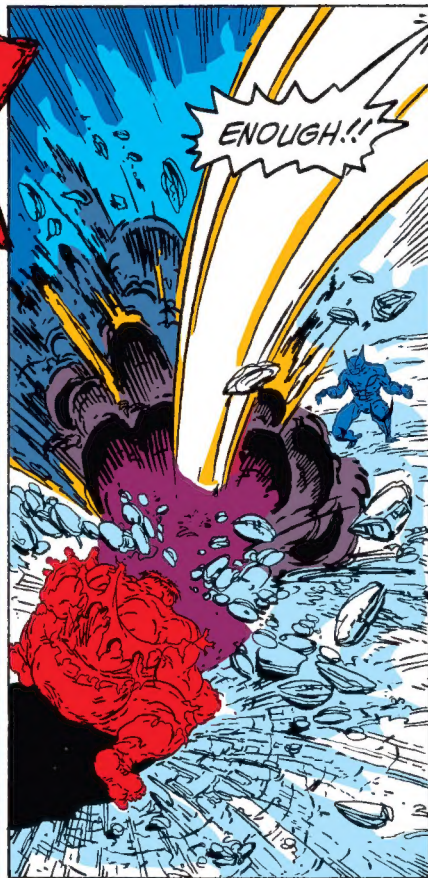


GETTIN' UP AGAIN? GOOD!

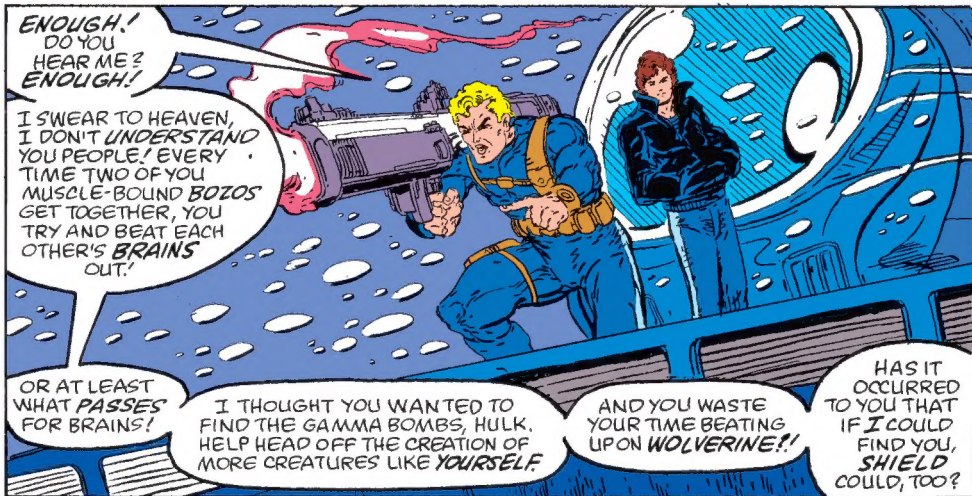
I WANT THIS TO LAST A LONG TIME!



KRAK



ENOUGH!!



ENOUGH!
DO YOU
HEAR ME? ENOUGH!

I SWEAR TO HEAVEN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU PEOPLE! EVERY TIME TWO OF YOU MUSCLE-BOUND BOZOS GET TOGETHER, YOU TRY AND BEAT EACH OTHER'S BRAINS OUT!

OR AT LEAST WHAT PASSES FOR BRAINS!

I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO FIND THE GAMMA BOMBS, HULK. HELP HEAD OFF THE CREATION OF MORE CREATURES LIKE YOURSELF.

AND YOU WASTE YOUR TIME BEATING UPON WOLVERINE!!

HAS IT OCCURRED TO YOU THAT IF I COULD FIND YOU, SHIELD COULD, TOO?



AND IF THEY FIND YOU DURING THE DAY WHEN YOU'RE BANNER, YOU CAN KISS YOURSELF GOODBYE.

IF YOU'RE NOT THE "MINDLESS" HULK ANYMORE, START ACTING THAT WAY. GET SOME PRIORITIES, FOR PITY'S SAKE!

AND YOU! WOLVERINE! DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING BETTER YOU SHOULD BE DOING?



"AND IN A STRANGLED VOICE I REPLY--

YEAH.

YEAH. I DO.

I THOUGHT I'D COME SO FAR. THEN I RUN INTO YOU AND **BANG**, THE YEARS FALL AWAY.

NO MATTER HOW FAR I GO, I'M RIGHT BACK WHERE I **STARTED**.

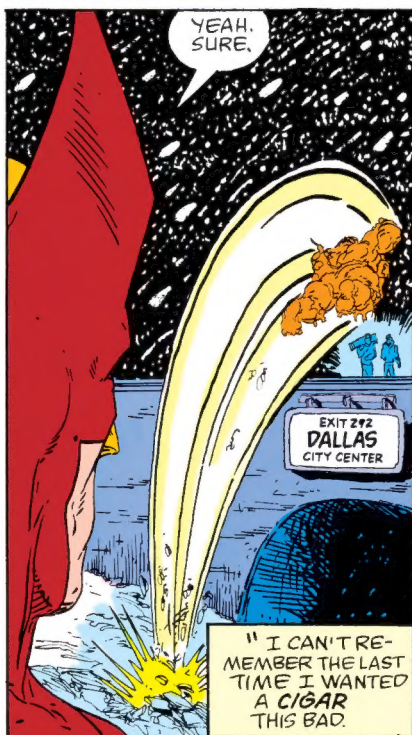
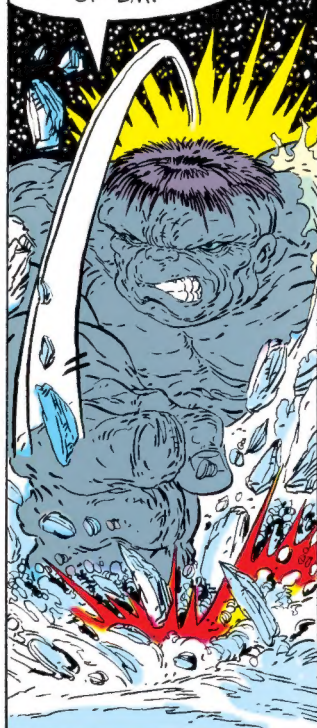
YEAH. WELL, YOU'RE JUST LIKE ALL THE **OTHERS**, WHO ALWAYS THOUGHT THEY WERE BETTER'N **ME**.

UNDERSTAND ??! **ALL OF YA!**

AND I DON'T HAVE TO BEAT UP EVERY LOW-LIFE LIKE **YOU** TO PROVE IT. YOU **TELL 'EM**, SHRIMP. TELL 'EM THE **HULK'S** BETTER THAN **ANY** OF 'EM.

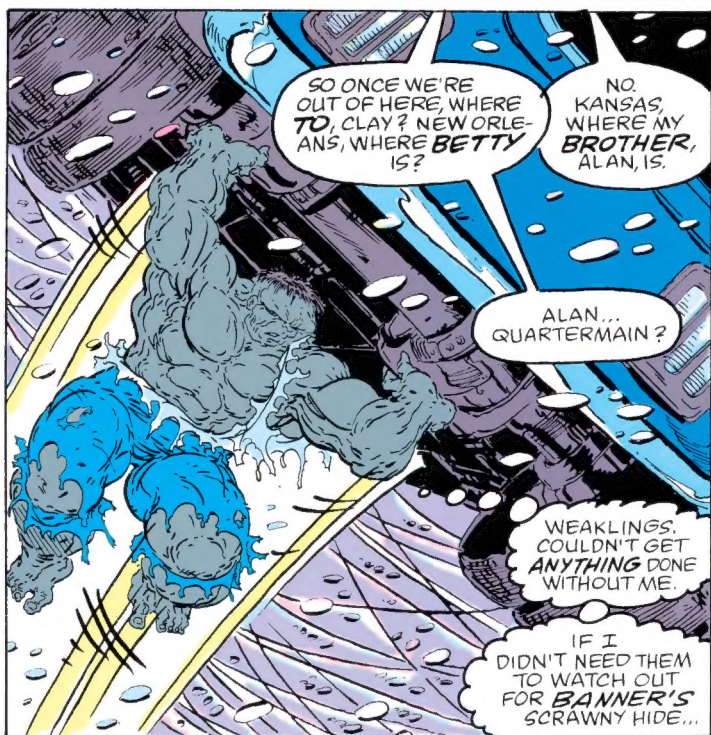


WELL, NOW I'M BETTER'N **ALL OF YA!**



YEAH. SURE.

"I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I WANTED A **CIGAR** THIS BAD.



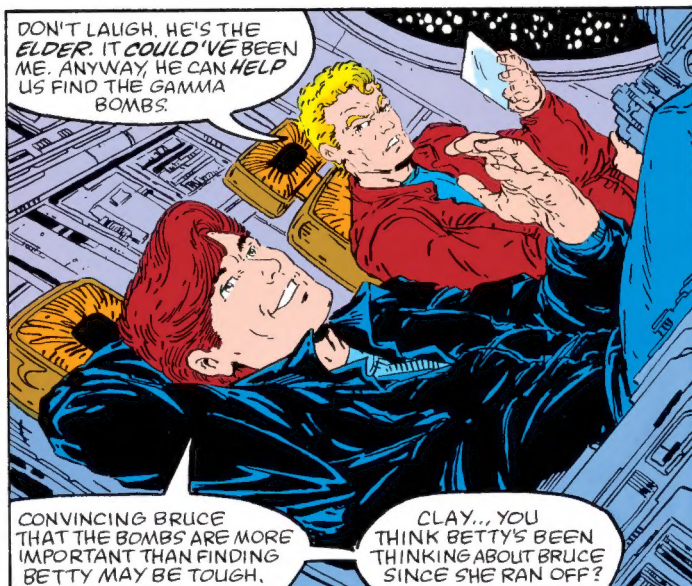
SO ONCE WE'RE OUT OF HERE, WHERE **TO**, CLAY? NEW ORLEANS, WHERE **BETTY** IS?

NO. KANSAS, WHERE MY **BROTHER**, ALAN, IS.

ALAN... QUARTERMAIN?

WEAKLINGS. COULDN'T GET **ANYTHING** DONE WITHOUT ME.

IF I DIDN'T NEED THEM TO WATCH OUT FOR **BANNER'S** SCRAWNY HIDE...



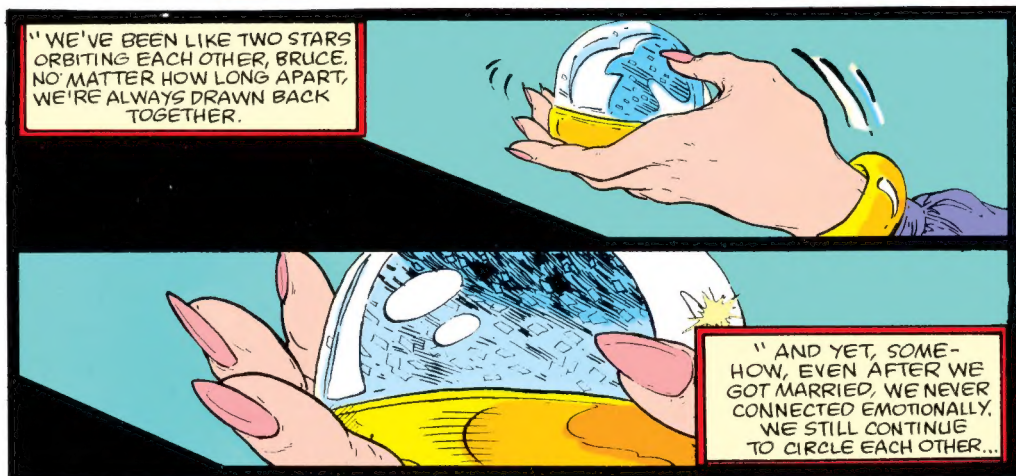
DON'T LAUGH, HE'S THE ELDER. IT *COULD*'VE BEEN ME. ANYWAY, HE CAN HELP US FIND THE GAMMA BOMBS.

CONVINCING BRUCE THAT THE BOMBS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN FINDING BETTY MAY BE TOUGH.

CLAY... YOU THINK BETTY'S BEEN THINKING ABOUT BRUCE SINCE SHE RAN OFF?

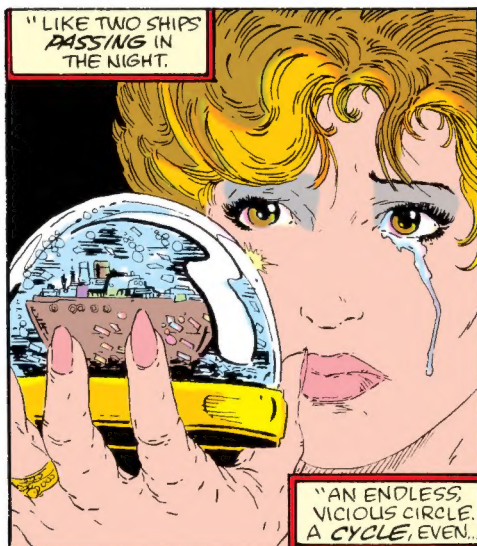


NOT IF SHE'S *SMART*, RICK-O. NOT IF SHE'S *SMART*.



"WE'VE BEEN LIKE TWO STARS ORBITING EACH OTHER, BRUCE. NO MATTER HOW LONG APART, WE'RE ALWAYS DRAWN BACK TOGETHER."

"AND YET, SOMEHOW, EVEN AFTER WE GOT MARRIED, WE NEVER CONNECTED EMOTIONALLY. WE STILL CONTINUE TO CIRCLE EACH OTHER..."



"LIKE TWO SHIPS *PASSING* IN THE NIGHT."

"AN ENDLESS, VICIOUS CIRCLE. A *CYCLE*, EVEN..."



"A CYCLE THAT CAN ONLY BE BROKEN... AT GREAT EXPENSE."

NEXT ISSUE: > THE MAN-BULL!

THE INCREDIBLE MONA

THE STRANGEST FEKKIN'
RELEASES OF ALL TIME!

IS HE
SCANNER
OR
RIPPER

OR...

IS HE
BOTH

